

Joan Marie Gunkelman

Joan Marie Gunkelman, 67, of Medina, passed away peacefully Wednesday, October 31, 2018. Joan was born March 9, 1951 in Berea, to the late Maynard and Dorothy (nee King) Wilkinson.

She was a 1969 graduate of Berea High School. Soon after graduation, Joan married her farmer sweetheart, Richard Gunkelman, after meeting him at a tractor pull held at the former Abbeyville Ball Field. Joan was a proud farmer's wife, mother and grandmother.

Joan was a faithful and dedicated member of Zion Lutheran Church, Valley City, where she was a member of the Choir, Altar Guild, Women's Bible Study and enjoyed helping with Vacation Bible School. She had done babysitting in her home as her own children were growing up. After her kids where in school full time, she went to work for the Buckeye Local School System from 1982-2009 where she first worked as a cafeteria worker and lastly retired as school bus driver. Joan loved her bus kids. Her greatest joy was spending time with her four grandchildren.

Joan will be greatly missed by her husband of 49 years, Richard; children, Sue (Jim) Alley, Karen Gunkelman, David Gunkelman and Deb Gunkelman; grandchildren, Faith and Lauren Alley, Tim and Grace Gunkelman; grand-dog, Lola; sisters, Sheryl (Doug) Thompson and twin sister, Jean (Joe) Molnar; numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Visitation will be Friday, November 2, 2018 from 2 to 8 P.M. in the gathering area of Zion Lutheran Church, 2233 Abbeyville Road, Valley City. Pastor Jim Watson will officiate. Funeral service will be 10 A.M., Saturday, November 3, 2018 at Zion's. There will an hour of visitation prior to the service. Interment at Zion Lutheran Cemetery.

Special thanks to the wonderful doctors, nurses and caregivers who treated our mom like their own when she was entrusted to their care, especially to Tara Calame and the staff of Kindred Hospice for their

compassion and support in Mom's final days. Also, a special thank you to the Zion Care Team and others that visited, sent cards and offered prayers of support and encouragement throughout.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials may be made to Zion Choir Fund or to the Zion Youth Luther League.

The Bauer Funeral Home, Valley City, has the honor of serving Joan's family.